

# Vermont Agency of Education Linking Health & Learning e-Bulletin

September, 2013

## News and General Announcements

### **The Vermont Agency of Education is Hiring!**

#### **Apply by September 12, 2013**

We are seeking applicants for the School Based HIV/STD Prevention Coordinator. The successful candidate coordinates, monitors compliance of, consults with schools and partner organizations, and leads participants in state-wide committees regarding school-based HIV/STD prevention programs to improve utilization of current, research-based and relevant sexuality education curricula and assessment tools by all Vermont schools for comprehensive and consistent HIV/STD prevention education. To read the full job specification for this position and apply, please click [here](#) and search for position number 613387. For questions about the responsibilities of this position, contact Kate O'Neill (802) 828-5151 or [Kathryn.oneill@state.vt.us](mailto:Kathryn.oneill@state.vt.us).

### **New Resources in the HERC**

To borrow an item from the Health Education Resource Center (HERC), please write to [AOE.HERC@state.vt.us](mailto:AOE.HERC@state.vt.us) or call (802) 828-0543. New titles include:

- Michigan Model for Health – High School (Curriculum)
- Lifestyle Diseases and How to Avoid Them (DVD)
- This is Your Brain on Tobacco: A Research Update (DVD)
- Revised or updated Teenage Health Teaching Modules (THTM)
- Several Adapted Physical Education items including curricular resources and assessment tools

### **Release of New School Cookbook for Vermont**

Vermont FEED, VT Agency of Education, and the School Nutrition Association of VT celebrate the release of a new cookbook of national significance entitled "*New School Cuisine: Nutritious and Seasonal Recipes for School Cooks by School Cooks*". The cookbook, developed by Vermont school nutrition professionals with support from the New England Culinary Institute, includes kid-tested and approved recipes that meet new USDA dietary guidelines and feature local, seasonal foods. To learn more, click [here](#). Contact Vermont FEED staff Anne Bijur at (802) 985-0318 or [abijur@shelburnefarms.org](mailto:abijur@shelburnefarms.org).

### **School Sport Concussion Toolkit Released**

The Vermont legislature has been working on the issue of school sports and concussion over the last three years, most recently passing Act 68 in May 2013. As this legislation was being considered, stakeholders with an interest in this issue met and discussed how they could assist the schools in the implementation of any legislation; both the requirements of the legislation but also best practice in the areas of *Return to Learn* and *Return to Play* following a concussion. The toolkit is the result of over a year's work by a dedicated group of individuals and can be accessed through this link. Members of the task force can be found under Section 1. It is important to note that the toolkit will be continually updated so the website will always provide the most current information, click [here](#). Contact Barb Winters, Brain Injury Association, at 1-877-856-1772 or [braininfo1@biavt.org](mailto:braininfo1@biavt.org).

### **DMV Reminder: Mandatory School Bus Evacuation Drill**

State law (23 VSA §1285) requires school districts in Vermont to conduct school bus evacuation drills twice a year. The first drill should be done early in the school year. All students of the school should participate in these drills. DMV inspectors will be spot checking school records to assure drills are being conducted and documented. For more information, contact Pat McManamon at (802) 828-3757 or [patrick.mcmanamon@state.vt.us](mailto:patrick.mcmanamon@state.vt.us).

### **School Health Policies and Practices Study – Data Now Online**

The 2012 School Health Policies and Practices Study (SHPPS) is a national survey periodically conducted to assess school health policies and practices at the state, district, school, and classroom levels. The questions examine eight components of school health: health education, physical education and activity, health services, mental health and social services, nutrition services, healthy and safe school environment, faculty and staff health promotion, and family and community involvement. To access the data, click [here](#).

### **Curriculum Alert!**

Schools in Vermont may be offered a curriculum titled, *Right Decisions Right Now*. Please be aware that this curriculum was developed for R.J. Reynolds (RJR), a tobacco company. An evidence-based curriculum is developed applying the best available evidence from scientific research for behavior change. This curriculum is not evidence-based and tobacco companies' programs may actually encourage youth tobacco use. Questions can be directed to Kate O'Neill at (802) 828-5151 or [kathryn.oneill@state.vt.us](mailto:kathryn.oneill@state.vt.us).

### **Vermont YRBS Data Brief: Tobacco Use**

This recent data brief can be found [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact Shayla Livingston at (802) 863-6337 or [Shayla.Livingston@state.vt.us](mailto:Shayla.Livingston@state.vt.us).

### **Bowler's Ed In-School Bowling**

This is a program designed to help elementary and middle school physical education teachers to include bowling in their programs. The organization provides teachers with a FREE curriculum, which includes: a step-by-step teaching progression, instructional video, rubrics (assessments), adapted PE tips, fitness activities, a multi-disciplinary section, and more. To review these resources, click [here](#).

### **Resources from the National Child Traumatic Stress Network**

This organization provides information and resources regarding the effect of domestic violence on children. Click [here](#) to explore.

### **International Walk to School Day**

**October 9, 2013**

International Walk to School Day is a global event where communities from over 40 countries walk and bike to school on a single day. Learn more about the day, who is participating in your area, and register for this year's event [here](#). In 2012, 47 schools across Vermont participated in this event; let's grow that number in 2013! For more information about the Vermont festivities, contact Abby Mattera at (802) 598-8651 or [abby@saferoutesvt.org](mailto:abby@saferoutesvt.org).

### **Vermont Fall Way to Go Week**

**October 14-18, 2013**

The Vermont Safe Routes to School Resource Center partnered with Way to Go! Vermont to encourage more schools than ever to participate in the spring Way to Go! Commuter Challenge. This year they are adding a fall challenge to the mix! Get your clean commute on by encouraging your school staff and students to walk, bike, bus or carpool to school. Please register [here](#). To learn more, contact Abby Mattera at (802) 598-8651 or [abby@saferoutesvt.org](mailto:abby@saferoutesvt.org).

## **Professional Development Opportunities**

Click [here](#) for a calendar of Vermont Agency of Education-sponsored events.

### **Does Your School Have a New School Nurse?**

Please remind new school nurses as they begin the process for licensing with the Agency of Education, that a first step could be contacting the Vermont Department of Health for the school nurse on-line training program. The New School Nurse Orientation is available by

contacting Sharonlee Trefry, VT State School Nurse Consultant at [sharonlee.trefry@state.vt.us](mailto:sharonlee.trefry@state.vt.us) or by calling (802) 863-7348.

### **Getting Kids on Bikes**

#### **Archived webinar**

**Online**

Biking is a great form of healthy and green transportation, but sometimes it takes a special initiative to get children on bikes. In this webinar we explored how you can encourage more kids to bike to school and provide opportunities to bike at school. Integrating bicycling into your Safe Routes to School program is a great way to extend the reach of your program and help foster a lifetime of healthy bicycling habits. This webinar focuses on the elements required to launch a successful biking campaign. To view this recorded webinar, click [here](#). To learn more about Safe Routes to School in Vermont, contact Abby Mattera at (802) 598-8651 or [abby@saferoutesvt.org](mailto:abby@saferoutesvt.org).

### **Health Educator Licensing Course: Concepts in Personal & Community Health**

**September – December, 2013**

**Online**

This course is offered by the Vermont Higher Education Collaborative. To learn more, click [here](#) or contact Kate O'Neill [kate.oneill@vthec.org](mailto:kate.oneill@vthec.org).

### **Webinar: 2014 Vermont Farm to School Grant Program**

**September 10, 2013, 3:30 - 4:30 pm**

**Online**

**September 18, 2013, 3:30 - 4:30 pm**

**Online**

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture & Vermont FEED/Shelburne Farms will be hosting 2 webinars on the upcoming 2014 Vermont Farm to School Grant Program. These 2 1-hour sessions will share information about planning and implementation grants, the grant application/award timeline, how to apply, grant writing tips, examples, and will include time for questions. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to attend one of the sessions. To reserve your place, please contact Danielle Pipher at (802) 498-8030 or [dpipher@shelburnefarms.org](mailto:dpipher@shelburnefarms.org).

### **School Nurse Grand Rounds**

**September 18, 2013**

**VIT Sites Statewide**

This session is titled: "Developing High Quality School Emergency Operations Plans: What's Your Role?". It will be facilitated by Winton Goodrich, Vermont School Boards Association And Steve Earley, Vermont School Crisis Team. To learn more and register, click [here](#) or contact Jennifer Zoller at [Jennifer.Zoller@uvm.edu](mailto:Jennifer.Zoller@uvm.edu).

### **Webinar: Making the Case for School Wellness**

**September 19, 2013**

**Online**

Before telling your school community what to change and how to do it, you have to give them the "why." Learn how to build awareness, support, and momentum for creating healthier school environments by talking about the obesity crisis, reviewing current school customs, and sharing best practices and success stories. This free webinar is sponsored by Action for Healthy Kids. Register [here](#).

### **Webinar: Progress and Opportunities in Wellness Policy Provisions, Part 2**

**September 25, 2013**

**Online**

This webinar will: (1) Provide a brief review of the Progress and Opportunities in Wellness Policy Provision report compiled by the Bridging the Gap Research program, (2) Discuss how this report information can be used locally, (3) Share implementation tips and strategies, and (4) Provide an opportunity to address participant questions and concerns. This event is sponsored by Action for Healthy Kids. Register [here](#).

### **Umatter for Schools – Suicide Prevention**

**September 30 & October 8, 2013**

**Newport, VT  
Rutland, VT**

**October 7-8, 2013**

These two-day trainings are designed so that you can prepare your school community to respond to the mental health needs of students and prevent suicide. Once adults know suicidal warning signs and how to help, they will be ready to teach suicide prevention lessons

using the Lifelines curriculum, an evidence-based program of four lessons and appropriate for middle and high school students. For more information and to register, click [here](#) or call (802) 254-6590.

### **Vermont Infectious Disease Conference**

**October 18, 2013**

**Burlington, VT**

Healthcare professionals, school nurses, and other clinicians from across the State are encouraged to attend the conference. This year's conference will offer professional development for healthcare professionals in all stages of their careers, and will provide opportunities to earn continuing education credits and network with colleagues from across the State. To learn more and register, click [here](#).

### **Essentials of the Presidential Youth Fitness Program**

**Apply by October 15, 2013 (Event on November 8, 2013)**

**Stowe, VT**

The [Presidential Youth Fitness Program](#) (PYFP) is a national, voluntary program that includes professional development, assessment, and motivational recognition to empower students to adopt and maintain an active lifestyle. This full-day workshop, sponsored by the Vermont Agency of Education, and held in conjunction with the VTAHPERD conference on November 8<sup>th</sup>, will provide participants with the foundational elements and resources needed to successfully implement the PYFP. Those who wish to attend are asked to apply by October 15, 2013. This session will be limited to a total of 30 participants. Financial support and resources will be provided for all participants. To apply, click [here](#) or contact Lindsay Simpson at (802) 828-1461 or [lindsay.simpson@state.vt.us](mailto:lindsay.simpson@state.vt.us).

### **VTAHPERD Conference**

**November 7-8, 2013**

**Stowe, VT**

The 2013 Vermont Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (VTAPHERD) conference information and registration is now available [here](#).

## **Grant and Funding Opportunities**

### **Vermont Rural Partnership**

Is your school a member of the Vermont Rural Partnership? Member schools are eligible for curriculum grants. To learn more, click [here](#) or contact [margaret.maclean@ruraledu.org](mailto:margaret.maclean@ruraledu.org).

### **Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grants**

**Deadline: October 15, 2013**

This program will provide funding for projects that have a permanent impact, such as facility enhancement (both indoor and outdoor) as well as landscaping/cleanup projects. Projects that encourage parent involvement and help build stronger community spirit are encouraged. Sample ideas include reading gardens, vegetable gardens, physical fitness areas, school landscaping projects, school nature trails, parent involvement centers, peer tutoring centers, playgrounds, and rotating student art exhibits. Any public K-12 school or nonprofit parent group associated with a public K-12 school is eligible to apply. Grant requests must be between \$2,000 and \$5,000 per school. To learn more about this funding opportunity and apply, click [here](#).

### **Vermont Farm to School Grant Program**

**Deadline: October 25, 2013**

The goals of the Rozo McLaughlin Farm to School Grant Program are to encourage Vermont schools to serve food that is as fresh and nutritious as possible; maximize the use of fresh, locally grown, produced and processed foods; educate students about healthy eating habits through nutrition education, including using hands-on techniques to make the connections between farming and the foods that students consume; increase the size and stability of farmers' direct sales market; and increase school meal participation by increasing the selection of foods available to students. To learn more and apply, click [here](#) or contact Abbey Willard at (802) 828-3829 or [abbey.willard@state.vt.us](mailto:abbey.willard@state.vt.us).

### **FY14 BEST Grant Application Process**

**Deadline: October 31, 2013**

Secretary Vilaseca has designated Vermont's Multi-Tiered System of Supports (VT MTSS) for exclusive use of FY 14 BEST/Act 230 funds. Click [here](#) to read the memo. Vermont Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (VTPBiS) is included within this designation. Please be advised that the award guidelines for these funds are revised this year. Click [here](#) to view the guidelines and grant application. Contact Carol Randall at (802) 828-0553 or [carol.randall@state.vt.us](mailto:carol.randall@state.vt.us).

### **Whole Kids Foundation, Garden Grants**

**Deadline: October 31, 2012**

In collaboration with [FoodCorps](#), the [Whole Kids Foundation](#) is accepting applications for the School Garden Grant Program, which supports school garden projects that help students learn about complex topics such as nutrition and health, sustainability and conservation, food systems, and community awareness. To be eligible for a grant, applicants must be a nonprofit K-12 school (public, private, or charter) and/or a 501(c)(3) organization that is developing or currently maintaining a garden project on school grounds with the goal of interesting children in fresh fruits and vegetables. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

**To unsubscribe, or subscribe, to the Linking Health & Learning bulletin, write to [lindsay.simpson@state.vt.us](mailto:lindsay.simpson@state.vt.us) or call (802) 828-1461.**